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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

James CURRY et al.

Serial No.: 08/598,457

Filed: February 8, 1996

For: SPATIAL SOUND CONFERENCE
SYSTEM AND APPARATUS

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Group Art Unit: 2644

Examiner: X. Mei

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Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action dated June 22, 1999, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections.

REMARKS

The following issues are outstanding in the present application:

-- Claims 1-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Remarks regarding Examiner's comments regarding Applicants' arguments

The examiner has stated that the applicants' argument mainly concerns that there is no motivation to modify the Minami reference or to combine the teachings of the cited reference. Applicants point out that it is more than no motivation to modify the Minami reference or to combine the teachings of cited references. The examiner has shown three different references that teach head-related transfer functions, which lack any teaching or suggestion that the head-related transfer functions would be beneficial in a conferencing system. The Minami reference teaches away from the combination using head-related transfer functions in a conferencing system. Minami provides motivation that teaches away from the combination, therefore, the combination is improper.